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MONTHLY LETTER OF THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Number 63

July, 1919

## BEE CULTURE

E. F. Phillips, Apiculturist in Charge

Dr. E. F. Phillips left Washington July 14 for Texas, where he addressed a meeting of beekeepers during Farmers' Week. From Texas he went to Clemson College, S. C., to take part in Farmers' Week there.

Geo. A. Hummer, recently special field agent in Mississippi, has resigned to take up commercial beekeeping again. R. B. Willson, formerly employed by the Office of Bee-Culture Investigations, has been appointed to take Mr. Hummer's place.

H. A. Scullien, special field agent for Washington, Oregon, and northern Idaho, has been appointed under a cooperative project between the Office of Bee-Culture Investigations and the State of Washington.

A. P. Sturtevant, specialist in the bacteriology of bee diseases, recently returned from an extended trip to California where he conducted some needed work in disease investigation.

From lack of funds, the following special field agents are now employed by their respective States and are not in cooperation with this office: A. T. Watson, Oklahoma; E. C. Davis, Louisiana; and W. A. Smith, Georgia.

Geo. H. Rea, formerly employed in cooperation with Cornell University, has left his position with the United Film and Projector Company to take up again the work in New York State.

Lloyd R. Watson, formerly special field agent and collaborator under cooperative appointment with Storrs Agricultural College, has left Connecticut for work in the Washington office.

## TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

C. L. Marlatt, Entomologist in Charge

H. D. Young, formerly connected with the California citrus-fruit insect investigation, was transferred, July 1, to the Insecticide and Fungicide Board. Mr. Young while in the Bureau of Entomology assisted R. S. Woglum in field investigations of liquid hydrocyanic acid.

Ernest L. Chambers, who has spent three years and a half in the University of Ohio, specializing in entomology, will assist in the investigation of insects infesting ornamental tropical and subtropical plants in greenhouses.

The following papers have been presented for publication, by assistants in this division: "The Chrysanthemum Midge," by C. A. Weigel and H. L. Sanford, and "The Banana Root-Borer," by G. F. Mozzette.

Emory G. Shanks, a student of the Technical High School of Washington, has been given a temporary appointment as laboratory helper.

FEDERAL HORTICULTURAL BOARD

C.L. Marlatt, Chairman

R. Kent Beattie recently visited Pennsylvania for the purpose of reporting on the potato quarantine situation at Freeland. He also attended a meeting of the potato pathologists on Long Island, N.Y.

W.S. Fields, who for the past year has been engaged in the study of cotton and truck crop diseases in Mississippi, has been transferred from the Bureau of Plant Industry to the Federal Horticultural Board, with assignment in Washington. Mr Fields will assist in the inspection of plants and plant products brought in by the Department of Agriculture.

The following visitors have been in Washington during the past month, consulting with pathologists in the Federal Horticultural Board and the Bureau of Plant Industry:

A. D. Cotton, Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew, England.

G.H. Pethybridge, Board of Agriculture of Ireland.

H.M. Quanjier, Wageningen, Holland.

K. Miyabe, of the University of Sapporo, Japan.

R.I. Smith, who is in charge of supervision of cotton fumigation at the port of Boston, recently visited Washington for the purpose of consultation.

Owing to the unsettled conditions in Mexico, practically no cars have entered El Paso during the past month.

The public hearing on July 15, "On Account of the Flag Smut and Take-all Diseases of Grains and the Wheat Nematode or Eelworm Disease," was well attended by interested parties from the Middle West. The following State Entomologists were in attendance: W.J. Schoene of Virginia, Frank N. Wallace of Indiana, and A.C. Lewis of Georgia. The State of Illinois was represented by P.A. Glenn.

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DECIDUOUS FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

A. L. Quaintance, Entomologist in Charge.

E.H. Siegler has just returned from Wallingford, Conn., and Dover, Del., where he has been assisting in connection with experimental work under way at those places.

E.W. Scott, in charge of the Vienna, Va., laboratory of the Insecticide and Fungicide Board, has resigned from the service to become manager of a newly formed fruit company, and will make his headquarters at Rockville, Md.

R.W. Kelley who has been engaged in field experimental work for the Insecticide and Fungicide Board, has been placed in charge of the laboratory at Vienna, Va., to succeed Mr. Scott.

W. A. Hoffman, at Brownwood, Tex., writes in a recent letter as follows concerning a substance he is using in the field with success against mosquitoes: "It consists of equal parts of castor oil, oil of pennyroyal, and oil of tar. The mixture was suggested to me by a fellow student at Cornell several years ago. At that time I tried it out once and it seemed to be fairly effective. In this section while working in the fields I found the mosquitoes and a species of Simulium very troublesome. On applying the mixture I found it to be very effective for about two hours. However, the substance possesses two disadvantages - the odor may be unpleasant to some persons, and it is somewhat difficult to remove. Yet I believe the use of this combination of materials is preferable to the torments of mosquitoes and other insects. To give it a thorough test I went fishing on the bayou near by, and though I stayed over-

night I did not suffer a single mosquito bite. The mixture does not seem to be very efficacious against the house fly, but the addition of a real repellent may make it so. It may be effective against bed-bugs also. In sections where field men are troubled in their work the use of this substance may be a great aid."

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#### CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

W. R. Walton, Entomologist in Charge.

E.V. Walter has been transferred from the extension work in Iowa to the investigational service, for duty at Tempe, Ariz. This change became effective July 20.

L.J. Hogg, formerly a valued assistant attached to the Tempe, Ariz., laboratory, died very suddenly July 8 of acute peritonitis. At the time of his death Mr. Hogg was employed as an agricultural specialist for one of the large copper concerns in Arizona.

The following appointments have been made in connection with the European corn-borer investigations at Arlington, Mass. John H. Harmon, Thomas F. Murphy, Roger J. Chambers, H.E. Partridge, Arnold F. Leary, and Earl D. Lothrop.

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#### LIBRARY.

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

#### New Books.

- Brain C.K., Report on typhus conditions in native dwellings. 20 pp., 6 figs. Pretoria, The government printing and stationery office, 1919. (Union of South Africa Dept. Agr. Local series 57).
- British Museum (Nat. Hist.) ... A map showing the known distribution in England and Wales of the anopheline mosquitoes, with explanatory text and notes. 63 pp., map. London, 1918.
- Carter, Lucy A. The somatic mitosis of *Stegomyia fasciata*. (Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science, new ser. No. 251, (v. 63, pt. 3) pp. 375-386, fold. pl. 21, Dec. 1918.)
- Construction of dipping tanks for cattle, revised April, 1919. (Rhodesia Agr. Jour., v. 16, No. 2, pp. 131-139, April, 1919.)
- Doolittle, G.M. Management of out-apiaries; or, An average of 114½ pounds of honey per colony, in a poor season and how it was done.... 4th ed. 72 pp., illus. Medina, Ohio, 1913.
- Ferris, G.F. A contribution to the knowledge of the Coccidae of the southwestern United States. 67 pp., illus. Stanford University, California, 1919. (Leland Stanford Junior University Publications: University Series.)
- Great Britain - Army Medical Department. Memoranda on some medical diseases in the Mediterranean war area, with some sanitary notes, 1916, (Reprinted with amendments, 1917.) 148 pp., illus., plates. London, 1917. "Insect pests," pp. 51-66.

- Imms, A.D.. Observations on the insect parasites of some Coccidae. II. On chalcid parasites of Lecanium capreae. (Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science, new ser. No. 251 (v. 63, pt. 5), pp. 293, 374, illus. Dec., 1918.) Literature, pp. 270-371.
- Lounsbury, C.P., European foul brood. 20 pp., illus. (Union of South Africa Dept. of Agriculture, Bull. No. 10, 1918).
- Rossi, Giacomo. The importance of malaria to agriculture and studies of malarial soil. (Soil Science, v. 5, No. 4, pp. 323-332, April, 1918.)
- Taylor, F.H. Malaria mosquito survey of irrigated areas in the Murray River district. 32 pp., pl., maps. Melbourne, Albert J. Mullett, Government printer, 1917. (Australia. Quarantine Service. Service Publication No. 12.)
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#### SOUTHERN FIELD CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

J. L. Webb, Entomological Assistant, Acting in Charge.

B. R. Coad, of Tallulah, La., was in Washington for a few days the latter part of the month.

The following temporary employees have been added to the boll weevil laboratory force: Lee Roy Wilbanks, George Lee Lott, H.C. Young, B.F. Ware, G.A. Hammett, James Benford Pope, Geo W. Alexander, Lloyd W. Brannon, Clarence H. Brannon, James P.H. Clayton, Amis L. Williamson, George S. Fricke, Ben Matt Davenport.

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#### TRUCK CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

F.H. Chittenden, Entomologist in Charge

B.L. Boyden, engaged in sweet-potato weevil eradication in the Baker-Charlton project in Florida and Georgia, reports that in checking up the eradication work, it has been found that on a number of infested farms, owing to lack of help and to continuous wet weather, the weevil is still abundant in some of the old banks and fields. It has accordingly been necessary in some cases for the inspectors and field agents operating on this project to give personal attention to the destruction of infested tubers and volunteer plants by burning with kerosene. Impassable roads in some sections have materially retarded the completion of this task.

The energetic methods used in the prosecution of this work and the active participation of the inspectors have resulted in a very favorable change of attitude on the part of many of the growers, who are showing an active cooperation. It is believed that the opposition encountered during the past year has changed to a friendly community cooperation which will immensely facilitate effective eradication during the coming winter.

Lieut. Neale F. Howard, formerly stationed at Madison, Wis., has just returned from overseas and is planning to resume work on truck-crop insects with this office. He passed through Washington July 26.

M.W. Leonard, extension entomologist on truck-crop insects, stationed in New York State, has resigned to accept a position with the Cornell University Experiment Station.

G. M. Coddington, extension entomologist on truck crop insects for the State of Connecticut, has resigned to accept a position with the European corn-borer eradication project.

J.E. Graf, entomologist in charge of field work, sweet-potato weevil eradication project, has returned to Macclenny, Fla., to resume the direction of eradication.

M.M. High, Kingsville, Tex., reports that six generations of the sweet-potato weevil have been secured during the period July 6, 1918, to June 25, 1919. Insecticide control promises well, infestation in sprayed plats ranging from 2.8 per cent to 12.1 percent, while the check plats (unsprayed) show infestation of 44.5 percent.

----- BUY W.S.S. -----

#### THE MAN WHO SAVES.

He erects a bulwark against sickness or adversity.  
He builds a bridge to the better job.  
He takes in hand a tool to grasp opportunity.  
He sets up a ladder to climb in the world.  
He gains control over money and things.  
He trains himself for growing responsibility.  
He buys War Savings Stamps.

----- BUY W.S.S. -----



